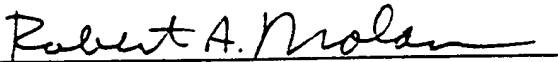


REMARKS

The claims have been amended without prejudice to eliminate multiple dependent claims. The specification has been amended to include a cross-reference to the PCT parent application and to add an Abstract of the Disclosure on a separate page.

Respectfully submitted,

NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.

By: 
Robert A. Molan
Reg. No. 29,834

RAM:alb

1100 North Glebe Road, 8th Floor
Arlington, VA 22201-4714
Telephone: (703) 816-4000
Facsimile: (703) 816-4100